



WISCONSIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL AMENDMENT MEMO

2001 Assembly Bill 509

Assembly Amendment 1

Memo published: October 1, 2001

Contact: Pam Shannon, Senior Staff Attorney (266-2680)

Assembly Bill 509 increases the amount of general purpose revenue (GPR) in the appropriation account that funds the National Guard Tuition Grant (NGTG) program by \$1,800,000 in the second year of the 2001-03 Biennium. The current appropriation level for the NGTG program is \$3,552,400 GPR in 2001-02 and \$3,724,500 GPR in 2002-03.

As passed by the Legislature, 2001 Senate Bill 55 (the Biennial Budget Bill), reduced the NGTG maximum tuition reimbursement rate from 100% to 85%. Governor McCallum vetoed the reduced reimbursement rate, thereby returning the rate to 100%, but was unable through a veto to increase funding for the program to reflect the retention of the higher reimbursement rate. However, in his veto message, the Governor included a statement that he would support legislation that provides full funding of the program at the 100% tuition reimbursement rate.

Assembly Bill 509 was introduced to provide full funding of the NGTG program at the 100% reimbursement rate.

Assembly Amendment 1 increases the amount of GPR for NGTG program grants by \$1,824,000 for the second year of the biennium, rather than the \$1,800,000 provided in the bill, in response to a re-estimate by the Department of Military Affairs of program funding needed at the 100% reimbursement rate.

Assembly Amendment 1 was adopted 10-0 by the Assembly Committee on Veterans and Military Affairs and the bill was recommended for passage, as amended, also on a 10-0 vote, on September 26, 2001.